

Message Text

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63

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PM-04 TRSE-00 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 L-03 DODE-00 SY-05 IO-10 /045 W

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R 221639Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9647

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, UY

SUBJECT: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. IMPORTS OF ALL SPORTING AND LAW ENFORCEMENT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION ARE CONTROLLED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY. IMPORT PROCEDURES NORMALLY INVOLVE AT LEAST FIVE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES: FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY, CUSTOMS, CENTRAL BANK AND BANK OF THE REPUBLIC (BOR). ARMS AND AMMUNITION IMPORTS ALSO REQUIRE DOCUMENTS FROM MINDEFENSE AND MONTEVIDEO POLICIE HEADQUARTERS.

2. PRIVATE CITIZENS, RURAL ESTABLISHMENTS, COMMERCIAL FIRMS, MANUFACTURERS AND OTHER PRIVATE AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS REGISTERED AT THE BOR MAY IMPORT GOODS INTO URUGUAY. ONCE REGISTERED, TO OBTAIN AN IMPORT LICENSE APPLICATION AT THE BOR, THE IMPORTER OF ARMS OR AMMUNITION MUST OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

A. A CERTIFICATE FROM THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WHICH INCLUDES "GOOD CONDUCT" ENTRY MADE BY THE INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE MONTEVIDEO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

B. A "NEED FOR CALIBER" DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE LOGISTIC DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY. THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES ARMY WITH CONTROL OVER THE AMOUNT AND TYPE OF WEAPONS IMPORTED.

C. AN "INVENTORY STATEMENT" FROM THE MATERIALS AND ARMAMENT SERVICE OF THE URUGUAYAN ARMED FORCES. MATERIALS AND ARMAMENT SERVICE PROVIDES A WAREHOUSE FOR ALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION IMPORTED BY

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PRIVATE DEALERS AND WILL NOT AUTHORIZE SHIPMENTS TO A PARTICULAR

DEALER IF HE HAS ADEQUATE STOCKS. (NOTE: THIS SYSTEM DEVELOPED AT REQUEST OF IMPORTERS TO PROTECT STOCKS AND THEMSELVES DURING TUPAMARO YEARS.)

D. A CERTIFICATE SHOWING THAT PAYMENTS TO THE VARIOUS REVENUE, PENSION FUND AND COMMODITY PRICE CONTROL AGENCIES ARE UP TO DATE.

3. UPON AUTHORIZATION OF THE APPLICATION, THE BOR ISSUES A REGISTRATION NUMBER, WHICH IS USED ON ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE TRANSACTION, INCLUDING LETTERS OF CREDIT. THE ORIGINAL OF THE MINDEFENSE CERTIFICATE IS ATTACHED TO THE IMPORT LICENSE APPLICATION, BUT A COPY MAY BE SENT TO THE SUPPLIER UPON REQUEST. ALTHOUGH GOU DOES NOT ISSUE ARMS OR AMMUNITION IMPORT PERMITS PER SE, EMBASSY BELIEVES EITHER MINDEFENSE CERTIFICATE OR COPY OF BOR-APPROVED IMPORT LICENSE APPLICATION WOULD SERVE TO MEET U.S. REQUIREMENTS TO ESTABLISH GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL OR LACK OF OBJECTION TO THE IMPORT.

4. UPON ARRIVAL, THE IMPORTER NOTIFIES THE MATERIALS AND ARMAMENTS SERVICE, WHICH RECEIVES THE GOODS AT SHIPSIDE AND REMOVES THEM TO A SPECIAL ARMY DEPOT LOCATED IN MONTEVIDEO. IMPORTERS ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN FOUR OFFICIAL LOG BOOKS UNDER AUTHORIZATION AND INSPECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE FOR:

- A. STOCK AND SALE OF FIREARMS
- B. STOCK AND SALE OF GUNPOWDER
- C. STOCK AND SALE OF AMMUNITION FOR CALIBER .32, .38 AND 7.65 PISTOLS

- D. FIREARM REPAIRS

ENTRIES ARE REPORTED MONTHLY TO THE MATERIALS AND ARMAMENT SERVICE AND TO THE LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT.

5. SALES OF LONG-BARRELED LAW ENFORCEMENT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION ARE PROHIBITED. PERMITS FOR ALL SPORTING SHOTGUNS, RIFLES, PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS UP TO .22 CALIBER ARE MANDATORY AND ARE ISSUED BY MATERIAL AND ARMAMENT SERVICE. SHORT-BARREL FIREARMS OF .32, .38 AND 7.65 CALIBER ARE SOLD ONLY TO THOSE HAVING A GOOD CONDUCT CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE MONTEVIDEO POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ADDITION TO FIREARMS PERMIT. SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER OF FIREARMS IS ALSO CONTROLLED THROUGH THESE PERMITS.

6. GDS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, SMALL ARMS, MUNITIONS CONTROLS, IMPORT LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MONTEV02915
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750292-0001
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750827/aaaaaxkt.tel
Line Count: 108
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 177789
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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06 JUL 2006

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION
TAGS: MILI, UY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006